GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1006
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2001
CLOSURE OF POWERLOOMS
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether several pwerlooms in the country have been closed down;

(b) if so, the details thereof; State-wise and the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of workers laid off alongwith the loss of production of textiles and the foreign exchange earning suffered due to closures of Powerlooms in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to revive the powerlooms in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR)

(a) to (c) : No data is maintained as to closure of powerloom units. However there has been an increase in number of powerlooms registered and consequential estimated employment generated. From 1997-98 till 31.10.2001, powerlooms registered has increased from 15.23 lakh to 16.66 lakh, and estimated employment from 38.08 lakh persons to 41.65 lakh persons. The figures, pertaining to Tamil Nadu also follow this trend. During this period number of looms registered in Tamil Nadu has increased from 2.81 lakh to 3.19 lakh, and estimated employment from 7 .03 lakh persons to 7.98 lakh persons.

(d) Government has taken several initiatives to facilitate growth in the powerloom industry. Some of these are:

i) Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) under which cost of borrowing capital for modernisation of thetextile and jute industries, including powerloom industry is reduced;

ii) Programme for induction of 50,000 shuttleless and for 2.5 lakh semi automatic and automatic looms in the decentralised powerloom sector, with incentives provided through the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS);

iii) A programme for modernization of Powerloom Service Centers (PSC) by the upgradation of their looms so as to provide training and skills to powerloom weavers to operate modernized equipment;

iv) A scheme for Computer Aided Design Centres in Powerloom Service Centers to provide value addition through design inputs into powerloom production.

v) Powerloom Export Entitlement (PEE) quota has been provided to encourage powerloom exports.In the new quota policy for 2000-2004, the PEE quota has been raised from 10% to 15%;